

CHOICES RFA 20-201 Applicant Executive Summaries

ACORN Clinic

Saving Smiles

Requested Funding 79,307.00. Saving Smiles patients are Alachua County adult residents at or below 100% of federal poverty household income guidelines. The Saving Smiles program provides free comprehensive dental services. The current proposal will expand the program to include adults 21 and over versus seniors only as in the previous grant cycle. The program will award selected adult patients up to \$1000.00 maximum for their treatment and an extra \$1,500.00 allowable for prosthodontics (i.e., dentures). An estimation of the annual value of avoided emergency room visits by dental patients is \$1.6 million. We anticipate serving 40-60 of the most vulnerable Alachua County residents with free dental services. At least half of the sponsored patients will be seniors aged 60+. Based on past experience, it is estimated this will involve 175 visits.

Faculty Associates, Inc

University of Florida College of Dentistry

Requested Funding \$206,351.00. UFCD has the ability to treat any oral health concern in one central location. These services range from routine dental examination and preventive care, routine dental procedures such as restorations (fillings), extractions, crowns, implants, root canals and dentures, and oral surgery to include oro-facial trauma and head and neck cancer diagnosis and treatment. 100% of all CHOICES funding will be used to provide dental care directly to eligible Alachua County residents. This guarantees the maximum possible efficiency of the grant, and benefits not only the patients, but also the dental students who will have the opportunity to provide more care. No eligible patient will be required to pay for any eligible services under the CHOICES program until funds are no longer available. Based on years' previous UFCD-CHOICES-funded data, UFCD plans to serve the comprehensive dental needs of 150 Alachua County residents in a single year and another 150 residents' emergency dental care needs. This will incorporate an estimated 2,100 patient visits annually.

Florida Dept of Health in Alachua County

We Care Dental Network Services

Requested Funding \$65,292.00. The We Care Physician Referral Network (WCN) is a formal health referral network providing dental services since 1993. The WCN staff will coordinate at least 36 dental clinics at Santa Fe College (SFC) and the Florida Department of Health's (FDOH-Alachua) Alachua County main site in the coming year. The WCN accepts referrals for dental care from the general population. We also work closely with safety net clinics in assisting clients with urgent dental needs. Clinic services include, but are not limited to, the following: Oral hygiene services and education, oral hygiene supplies, diagnostic x-rays, urgent care, treatment planning, restorative services (dental fillings), oral surgery, endodontic care (root canals), tooth replacement (prosthetics), and case management. The WCN does not artificially limit the number of residents assisted. Last fiscal year, from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, we scheduled 187 clinic visits for 92 patients, providing \$102,375.00 in value-of-services. We will host clinics at both sites, increasing access for Eastside residents. In the coming fiscal year, we plan to organize two monthly SFC clinics, providing services for up to 12 clients at each and

one monthly FDOH-Alachua clinic, providing services for up to 5 clients. We will likely serve at least 100 clients but will conservatively plan on completing 90 referrals. Based on requests-to-date, we anticipate at least 21 Senior Oral Health Initiative clients who will qualify for free prosthetics.

Florida Dept of Health in Alachua

We Care Network Medical Services

Requested Funding \$98,822.00. The We Care Physician Referral Network (WCN) is a formal physician referral network representing a dynamic coalition of public institutions, private sector interests, and community agencies providing medical and dental services to uninsured, low income residents through collaboration with volunteer health care professionals and institutions within Alachua County. The We Care Program accepts referrals for medical care from area safety net providers such as Helping Hands Clinic, Equal Access Clinic, ACORN Clinic, and Mobile Outreach Clinic, to name a few. WCN volunteer providers provide a wide array of medical services including, but not limited to: primary physician care, specialty care fields including gynecology, general and orthopedic surgery, cardiology, urology, and gastroenterology, breast and cervical cancer screening, diagnostic services such as radiology and clinical pathology, in-patient and outpatient hospital care, day-stay surgery, ancillary services such as physical and occupational therapy, home health care and management. The WCN does not artificially limit the number of residents assisted. Based on previous data, we expect to receive approximately 2000 referrals in the next year, completing 500-700 of these and serving approximately 250 unduplicated individuals. We are estimating referral completion conservatively at 500.

Gainesville Opportunity Center

Promoting Access to Care for Adults Living with Mental Illness

Requested Funding \$50,000.00. The Gainesville Opportunity Center (GOC) will provide evidence-based activities and services to adults living with mental illness to promote access to care by hiring a designated Wellness Coordinator. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has identified modifiable risk factors responsible for the life expectancy disparity for people with serious mental health illness who die decades earlier than their counterparts in the general population. Modifiable health factors which our program will address include poverty, social isolation and trauma; tobacco use; obesity; and lack of access to healthcare. We will provide GOC members with community support services to help with entitlements, housing and advocacy, promoting healthy lifestyles as well as assistance in finding quality medical, pharmacological, and substance abuse services in the community. To promote wellness, we will regularly offer the Whole Health Action Management Plan, the Wellness Recovery Action Plan, the Quit Your Way smoking cessation plan and an exercise program. The GOC currently provides nutrition lunches to members every weekday and will expand the provision of food by providing weekend food supplies. The GOC Promoting Access to Care for Adults Living with Mental Illness Program reduces health disparities by identifying risk factors for individual GOC members, focusing on those needs by promoting access to care through wellness advocacy and linkage to community resources, creating individual care plans, assisting and supporting through regular check-ins, monitoring achievements and barriers experienced, and updating care plans as needed. Currently the GOC has 90-112 active members, defined as an adult living with mental illness who has enrolled in the GOC and has participated in a GOC activity within the last 6 months.

Grace Healthcare Services Corp

Grace Pharmacy

Requested Funding \$37,500.00. Grace Pharmacy, “the pharmacy with no cash register”, founded in 2017, is a division of Grace Healthcare Services Corp, a Florida non-profit 501(c)(3). It provides free prescription services to the uninsured working poor, indigent, and homeless residents of Alachua County. Its small (9'x15') pharmacy at Grace Marketplace is currently staffed 20 hours a week by volunteer pharmacists and UF pharmacy students. The facility, equipment, computer and a few drugs were donated. The pharmacy does not carry any controlled drugs, narcotics, or opioids. It provides a wide range of second tier and generic prescription drugs to treat allergies, asthma/respiratory conditions, infections, arthritis and pain, heart disease, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol. We also provide meds for diabetes, gastrointestinal problems, eye conditions, men's and women's health conditions, dermatitis, thyroid conditions, vitamin and nutritional deficiencies, mental health issues and neurological disorders. Grace is the only pharmacy for indigent clients. We currently rely entirely on volunteer pharmacists. This grant money will be used to hire a part time pharmacist. Other fundraising will then allow us to add some essential but currently unavailable prescription medications. By providing prescription medications to individuals who cannot pay and have no other access, this program helps to reduce health disparities for these eligible Alachua County residents. Currently Grace Pharmacy fills almost 500 prescriptions per month approximating 6000 prescriptions during a single grant year.

Helping Hands Clinic, Inc

Behavioral Health Services

Requested funding \$24,100.00. Helping Hands Clinic is requesting funds to support part of the cost of providing mental/behavioral health care to the homeless. The services are co-located with primary care for which the patient is eligible, provided by psychiatrists, and include medications and lab tests. Services are offered in a convenient location and culturally competent manner. All services are provided by the program without cost to qualified enrollees. Funding requested includes outreach services to homeless to encourage them to participate in mental health care and facilitate access to HHC or other service providers. Services are comprehensive and all provided without charge. We anticipate providing to over 530 participants in FY19-20.

Helping Hands Clinic, Inc.

Medical Care Services

Requested Funding \$74,500.00. Helping Hands Clinic offers services to the homeless population on a walk-in basis in a casual, non-institutional style. Services offered by Helping Hands Clinic on site include primary care, management of hypertension, asthma and diabetes, direct distribution of needed medication and supplies, acupuncture, tobacco cessation assistance, women's health, education and psychosocial support. Referral services offered without charge include eye care, dental care, lab and imaging studies, specialty care and hospitalization, screening and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (including HIV) and screening for breast and cervical cancer. Services are comprehensive and all provided without charge. We anticipate providing over 1600 medical visits in FY19-20. The total number of outreach encounters in FY19-20 is projected to be at least 500 and we anticipate providing over 1600 medical visits.

NAMI Gainesville, Inc.

Peer Support Specialist Program

Requested Funding \$94,560.00. Over 50% of people who have a serious mental illness are receiving no medical treatment and many are living in poverty or homelessness. NAMI Gainesville, Inc (hereafter referred to as NAMI) receives frequent requests for assistance from this population through its helpline and support groups and referrals from organizations that encounter individuals with untreated mental health illness. NAMI is seeking funds to develop and start a Peer Support Specialist Program which will offer long-term, one-on-one support to individuals who are living with serious mental health illnesses. The program's services will include providing mentors and helping individuals gain access to medical service providers, support groups and courses, mental health related benefits and services provided by other groups that support people with mental health issues including employment, housing, and health care assistance. The proposed Peer Support Specialist Program will reduce health disparities and improve access to care by assigning experienced Certified Peer Support Specialists to individuals who are not receiving treatment. The proposed program will accept 24 new participants in its first year of operations and currently plans to increase enrollment capacity by that same amount each year-48 by year two, 73 by year three, etc.

Peaceful Paths, Inc

Trauma Counseling for Underserved Survivors of Domestic Violence

Requested Funding \$50,864.00. Peaceful Paths Trauma Counseling for Underserved Survivors of Domestic Violence will utilize CHOICES grant funds to increase accessibility and enhance existing services in trauma informed counseling in Alachua County. The project will focus services on underserved survivors including socio-economically disadvantaged, rurally isolated, communities of color, immigrants, limited English proficiency (LEP), speakers and LGBTQ+ survivors in locations where these survivors receive partner services. The Trauma Counseling Program is a free and confidential service that includes an initial intake where survivors outline self-identified goals, 16 sessions of individual trauma counseling, support groups and a post-services follow-up for additional referrals, post-services satisfaction survey, and safety planning. We have been providing this program through our outreach offices for the past 9 years with the aid of a Violence Against Women Act grant which was not renewed for the upcoming three year cycle. The CHOICES funding would continue this service and allow for expanded contacted counselors and partnerships. Because the project is free, we are able to dramatically impact the health of survivors who would not otherwise have access to behavioral and mental health services. The program serves women and men, children, and families (without the offending parent) and all programming is conducted by licensed therapists at a rate of \$50.00 per hour, far below the insurance or private pay rate for the same therapeutic contact. Support groups are also provided by a licensed counselor as part of a salaried position and provide a critical group therapy dynamic for survivors. All services have concurrent child care as well, meaning that children impacted by domestic violence receive vital intervention and assessment services at the same time as the parent, creating a holistic therapeutic intervention and safety services for the entire family at no cost to the client. The individual Trauma Therapy (with 700 sessions per year) would serve approximately 43 clients (120 clients in the scope of the project) and an additional 260 would be served in support groups (780 in the scope of the project). This would include the 16 sessions of therapy, intake, follow-up, and case management, and up to 52 weeks of support group. The cost per client is \$750 for the 16 session program and \$2.35 per support group session, for a total program cost of \$50,864.

University of Florida Mobile Outreach Clinic

UF Mobile Outreach Clinic

Requested Funding \$123,729.00. The Mobile Outreach Program (MOC) will provide care coordination and primary and specialty care services to the underserved, uninsured, and underinsured residents of Alachua County. Although we substantially improve medical care access for Alachua County residents, we also serve as a portal to connecting patients with resources that directly influence their physical and mental health. Our services are offered on a first come first serve basis. As our clinic operates on a bus, we are free to go to areas in which our services are needed most. Services include, but are not limited to health screenings (including STI testing), chronic illness management, acute care treatments, women's health screenings, and specialty clinics. Specialty clinics are made possible due to partnerships cultivated with UF Psychology, UF Neurology, UF Radiology, UF College of Pharmacy, UF College of Law, and UF College of Medicine. MOC reduces health care disparities in three distinct ways: through education initiatives, remaining easily accessible for patients, and cultivating partnerships. MOC will provide services to a minimum of 2000 unique people during the grant term. Each year we average approximately 3200 primary care and specialty clinic visits and make in excess of 8000 follow up phone calls to patients.

University of Florida

Equipping Citizens to Manage Their Chronic Conditions Successfully

Requested Funding \$51,135.00. Chronic disease management programs have become an increasingly popular way of providing health education to populations with a high burden of chronic disease. The BESTyou program is targeted to low income minority populations who are at risk for developing chronic disease. BESTyou (Basic Strategies to Transform You) is a four-to six week community based behavioral health program focused on specific strategies and tools to empower clients and enhance self-efficacy, resilience and overall well-being. BESTyou applies an innovative recruitment and incentive strategy where program hosts are peers and community members with a clear leadership or influential role in the neighborhood where the program will take place. This task-shifting model utilizes community member to provide evidence-based strategies for behavioral health. BESTyou sessions meet weekly for 60-90 minutes, depending on participants' availability. Topics that are covered include conflict resolution, problem-solving, stress management/emotional health, overcoming barriers to physical activity and good nutrition, effective communication, financial accountability and more. At the end of each session, participants are prompted to create an action plan or personal wellness goal with the program facilitator that centers on a short-term, achievable behavior change. After completing the 4-6 week program, BESTyou hosts will be offered the opportunity to attend training and test for Community Health Worker (CHW) certification. The CHW's can be a resource to other Alachua County safety net clinics, social service agencies, fire rescue programs, or any other site where peer-based health education and support is needed. In this way, BESTyou extends beyond individual groups and more effectively addresses "upstream" factors influencing health and well-being. BESTyou plans to enroll and serve 150 participants in a calendar year and anticipates that at least five program hosts will go on to achieve CHW certification each year (15 total over 3 years).

UF College of Nursing Faculty Practice Association, Inc

Health Prevention, Promotion, and Education

Requested Funding \$65,500.00. Archer Family Health Care is a nurse-led, federally designated rural health clinic and since 2001 has served over 10,000 unduplicated patients and provided health screenings and health education to thousands of area residents. We propose a program called Health Prevention, Promotion, and Education (HPPE). This program is an integrated team-based approach aimed at positively affecting health outcomes for its participants. We will provide health care prevention, promotion, and education to uninsured residents of Alachua County to help them gain control of their health. Our team will provide 340 visits and services that may include family planning, preventive care, cancer screenings, immunizations, HIV testing, pediatric primary care, behavioral health services, and acute and chronic disease management. Other activities to optimize health include health education for nutrition and weight management, smoking cessation, and exercise and weight management. The goal of these classes is to educate participants to the importance of maintaining and improving their health. Clients will be encouraged to use their patient portal to increase communication and engage in health education and promotion. With approval of this program, we propose to provide 340 visits to CHOICES participants. Patients will average 3-4 visit per year. The estimated cost per visit per patient in our practice is \$192.64.